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The China Mail.

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HONGKONG, FRIDAY, JULY 30, 1920.

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TO-DAY'S CABLES.

(Reader's Service to the China Mail.)

EMPIRE TRADE

OCEAN FREIGHTS AND FACILITIES.

SUGGESTIONS SOUGHT.

LONDON, July 28.

The Board of Trade announce that the Imperial Shipping Committee is prepared to receive before January 1 suggestions from any persons or bodies in the Empire regarding ocean freights and facilities, and conditions in inter-Imperial trade.

GENERAL DYER.

PUBLIC SUBSCRIPTIONS RAISED.

LONDON, July 28.

In the House of Commons, replying to Major Mackenzie Wood with regard to public subscriptions being raised on behalf of General Dyer, Mr. Winston Churchill said that the King's Regulations forbade the acceptance of such a present but as General Dyer had now applied to retire he did not propose to take any action.

POLAND SURPRISED.

BOLSHEVICKS ATTACK IN SPITE OF ARMISTICE.

VIOLENT FIGHTING.

WARSAW, July 28.

A communique states that in spite of the acceptance of the Polish armistice proposal, the Bolsheviks resumed violent attacks on the whole front, capturing various points eastward of the Galician frontier and advancing 20 kilometres southwards of Grodno.

BOLSHEVICKS CROSSING LINE DEFINED AT SPA.

BERLIN, July 28.

A Warsaw wireless message states that the Bolsheviks have captured Pinsk and are crossing the line defined as the Spa Conference's armistice proposal.

A message from Berlin states that the Russian commanders were disinclined to cease hostilities in accordance with the Soviet's orders owing to the prevalence of Tsarist officers.

LURE OF POWER.

The leading Russian Nationalists, failing to win Allied help, have established an organisation in Berlin endeavouring to secure the co-operation of the German reactionaries, who welcome the alliance, hoping thereby to regain power and acquire political and economic predominance in Russia.

TO ESTABLISH BOLSHEVICK REPUBLIC.

COPENHAGEN, July 28.

A Magdeburg paper asserts that an agreement has been signed between the Soviet, the German Independent Socialists, and the Spartacists providing for the proclamation of a Bolshevik republic in Koenigsberg, Danzig, Breslau, and other towns immediately the Soviet's troops have crossed the frontier, also the formation of a Red German army under the Russian General Tomscheff, and the establishment of revolutionary tribunals, communist municipal commissions, and the nationalisation of industry, the Russian army maintaining order and protecting the proletariat.

INCREASED RAILWAY FARES

NEW RATES START EARLY IN AUGUST.

LONDON, July 28.

In the House of Commons, Mr. Bonar Law announced that the Government had accepted all the recommendations of the railway rates committee except with regard to workmen's fares the increase of which would be further considered. The increased fares operate from August 6, except the workmen's which operate from September 1.

LEAGUE COUNCIL MEETING.

IMPORTANT SUBJECTS TO BE DISCUSSED.

BLOCKADE POWERS.

LONDON, July 28.

The Secretariat of the League of Nations announces that the subjects to be discussed at the meeting of the Council at San Sebastian on July 30 will include the co-ordination of measures for applying blockade as a weapon of the League, the creation of an international permanent health organisation, the best methods of applying the dispositions of the covenant in connection with the administration of the ex-German overseas possessions by mandatory powers, the relations between the Council and the Assembly of the League, the claim from the Government of India for membership, and the Executive committee of the international labour office.

TAXATION LIMIT REACHED.

GOVERNMENT ACCUSED OF EXTRAVAGANCE.

"IGNORANT AND FOOLISH."

LONDON, July 28.

In the House of Commons, on the third reading of the Finance Bill, Mr. Asquith contended that the wasteful and extravagant expenditure was more attributable to Government policy than to the administration. He cited the example of Mesopotamia where the estimates were recently largely reduced but the forces are now being increased.

Mr. Austen Chamberlain agreed that Britain had about reached the limit of her taxable capacity. He pointed out that the expenditure in 1918 and 1919 was £34,000,000, and £46,000,000. It was reduced to £21,060,000 last year, and to £12,820,000 this year. He believed it to be an ignoble and foolish policy to give up all care for Mesopotamia and Palestine and abandon our responsibilities elsewhere. We purchased neither security nor economy thereby. The Government had gone as near to rationing the Army, Navy, and Air Force as was possible in a world where we were not masters of events.

The Bill passed the third reading.

THE DOLLAR.

To-day's closing rate 4/0 1/2
To-day's opening rate 4/0 1/2

EARLIER TELEGRAMS.

(Reader's Service to the China Mail.)

THE BOULOGNE CONFERENCE.

LONDON, July 28th.

The British Note to the Soviet regarding the future of Poland was drafted this afternoon at Boulogne according to Mr. Lloyd George's instructions. Mr. Millerand approved of it, provided that the conference did not imply recognition of the Soviet. The Note was signed on behalf of Great Britain alone. It will be submitted to America and Italy before despatch to Moscow.

The French are sceptical of the immminence of the conference and of the conference being confined to Poland, but, if arranged, they are determined not to be drawn to other paths. France is willing to waive the question of the repudiation of the Russian Debt and the cessation of the Soviet propaganda, until the Russo-Polish question is settled. It is believed that if the Soviet displays sincerity in the Polish preliminaries, the negotiations may be widened.

The Frontiers did not discuss the surrender of General Wrangel.

Lithuania has sent an ultimatum to the Soviet, owing to the failure of the Bolsheviks to evacuate Vilna.

MEXICAN RIDDLE.

Eagle Pass (Texas), July 27th.

General Villa's arrival at Subiaca was followed by a sharp encounter with small Government forces. It is reported that Villa's forces number 400. Villa is about to start on the war-path unless his surrender on his terms is accepted by the Huerta Government.

It is stated that Villa has seized the American brewer, Mr. Haegelin, whom he is holding for ransom.

MEXICO CITY, July 27th.

A Government bulletin states that Villa telegraphed to Senor Huerta offering his surrender unconditionally. The Government instructed him to report himself to General Martinez and repair the railway. Villa replied that the railway was repaired, signing himself "Affectionately, Francisco Villa."

All the trains are now running regularly northward.

NEGRO PUGILIST.

NEWARK, July 27th.

Harry Wells, the negro heavy-weight boxer, knocked out Fred Fulton in the third round in a 12-round contest.

IN SINGAPORE.

PROHIBITIVE LIVING EXPENSES.

"WORST PLACE IN WIDE WORLD."

A well-known shipping man who reached Brisbane by the steamer "Mataram" from Singapore declared that Singapore was the worst place in the wide world to live in at present. He explained that living expenses were prohibitive. The absolute minimum hotel rates averaged 15 dollars a day, the dollar having a fixed value of 25.4d. Even at those rates accommodation was difficult to obtain, and at the best could only be described as second class. Commenting generally upon affairs in the Straits Settlements, he stated that the market was down to nothing, that was to say, it was equal to the normal pre-war market. When the "Mataram" left Singapore tin was quoted at 106 cents and rubber at 15 cents less than a fortnight previously. He attributed the falling off to the influence of Japanese financiers who were fighting strongly for a forward position in the Singapore market. Singapore so far has practically escaped the epidemic of strikes. One was instituted recently but had no chance from the outset and fizzled out in two days. Generally speaking, he concluded that the conditions in the East can be regarded as satisfactory, and will further improve.

"OH, PHILIPPINES!"

Oh, Philippines, isles of my dreams,
I greet you from our rocky shores!
A Minstrel sings beside our streams
And roams with a heart that adores.

My yearning to see you is great,
And admire your beauties untold;
I know not if you will greet
"Dahuyag" when your shores I behold!

But time will come when I will be
In Philippines, where stars are dreams;
I will sing and fare on the sea,
When the moonbeam in my heart gleams.

Far from you I touch the lyre's chord,
And like the birds I sing at heart;
With your Minstrels I left the gourd,
To give you greetings from my heart!

Hongkong, July 28.

—ESANIP.

RUSSIAN NOTICES

J. T. SHAW

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AUCTIONEERS, APPRAISERS
AND SURVEYORS.
Public Auctions

THE Undersigned have received instructions to sell by Public Auction, on

SATURDAY, July 31, 1920,
Commencing at 11 a.m.
at Holt's Wharf, Kowloon.
(For account of the concerned)
525 Boxes Tin Plates.
Terms:—Cash on delivery.

LAMMERT BROS.,
Auctioneers.
Hongkong, July 28, 1920.

on

TUESDAY, August 3, 1920,
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at No. 18, Middle Road, Kowloon.
A Quantity of

Valuable Household Furniture,
Comprising:—

Teak hatstand, blackwood music cabinet, stools & chairs, Chesterfield couches & armchairs, carved cherrywood card table, teak desk & bookcase, silk embroidered pictures, tapestry curtains, carpets, rug, electric fittings, etc., etc.

Teak extension dining table & chairs, teak sideboard, teak dinner wagon, teak ice chest, tea tables, teak flower stands, dinner, service, etc., etc.

Double & single teak & iron bedsteads, double & single teak wardrobes, teak dressing table, teak chest of drawers, enamelled baths, patent basins, etc., etc.

Also

Pantry & Kitchen Requisites, and

1 Victrola with cabinet & 40 records,
1 Singer's Sewing Machine with electrical attachment.

1 Avari with 11 canaries.
N. B. Most of the above furniture were made by Messrs. Wm. Powell Ltd.

On view from Monday, the 2nd August.

Catalogue will be issued.
Terms:—Cash on delivery.

LAMMERT BROS.,
Auctioneers.
Hongkong, July 28, 1920.

PUBLIC AUCTION.

S. S. "WING HANG"

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE STEAMSHIP "WING HANG" as also her near Steamships in the Harbour of Hongkong.

Will be sold by
Order of the Mortgagees

PUBLIC AUCTION,

TUESDAY, the 10th day of August, 1920,
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by
Messrs. LAMMERT BROS.,
Auctioneers.

at their Auction Rooms in Duddell Street.

The Ship is a Chinese Ship registered at Canton.

Her dimensions and tonnage are approximately as follows:
Length—147 ft. 1 inch REGISTERED TONNAGE:—
Breadth—25 ft. 3 inches Gross—142
Depth—9 ft. 6 inches Net—204
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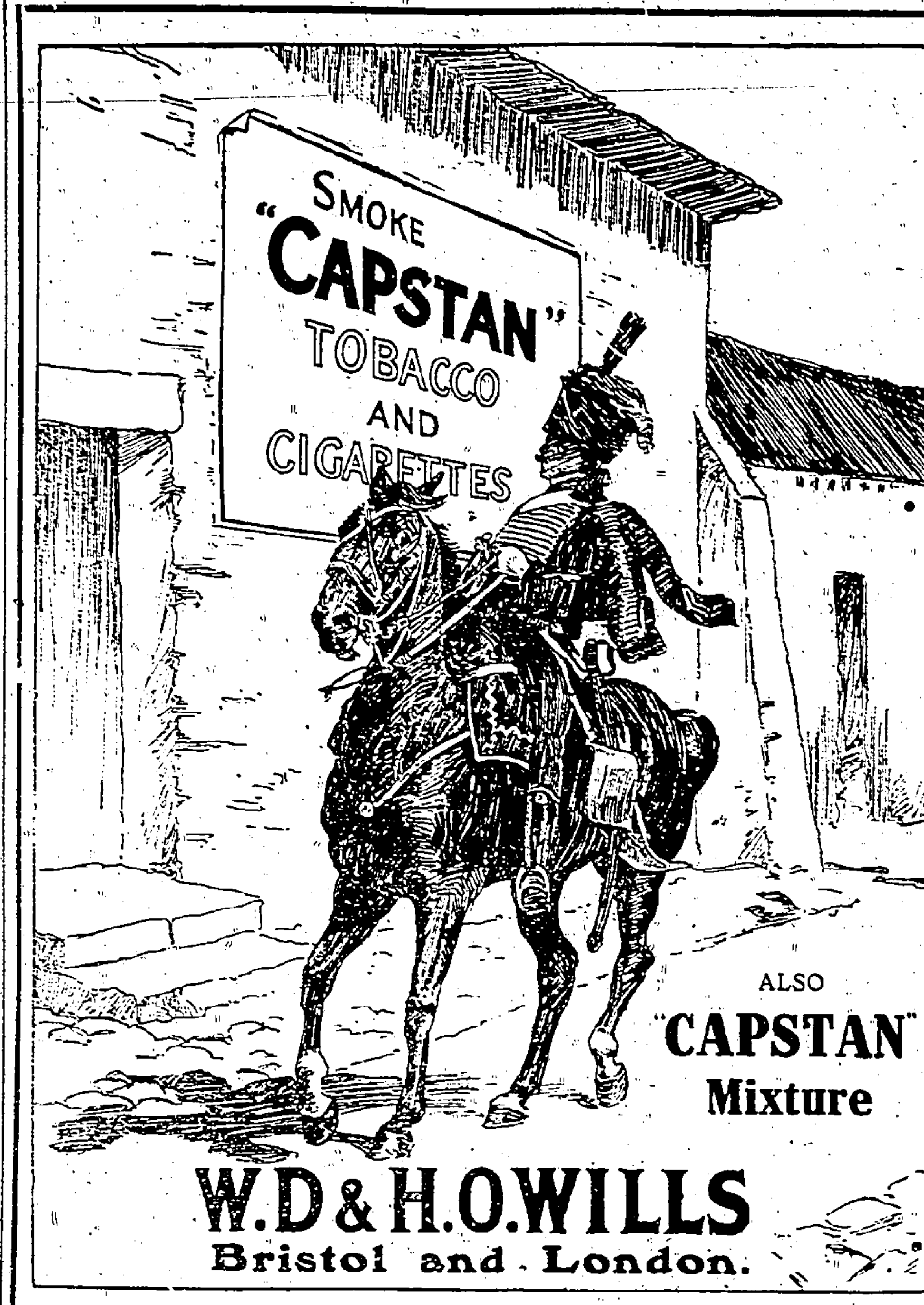
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THERAPION NO. 1
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THERAPION NO. 3

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This Advertisement is issued by British-American Tobacco Co., (China) Ltd.

PINNACLE OF THE EARTH.

PROSPECTS FOR CLIMBING
MOUNT EVEREST.

"We hope within the next few years to hear of a human being standing on the Pinnacle of the Earth." This fascinating project—the ascent of Mount Everest, the supreme summit of the range of the Himalaya Mountains—mentioned by the President at the anniversary meeting of the Royal Geographical Society, originated some years ago with Colonel the Hon. Chas. Bruce, Major Rawling, and other members of the Society, and of the Alpine Club. Unfortunately, Major Rawling, who became Brigadier General, was killed in the war, and the Hon. Chas. Bruce was wounded in the leg in Gallipoli.

"Whilst we have no definite plans at present," Lieut. Col. Sir Francis Younghusband said, in an interview with "The Observer," the Society is desirous of keeping up the idea and of going on with the expedition within the next year or two. Probably there will have to be two or three preliminary expeditions. Sixty miles is the nearest distance from this distance by Major Ryder and Captain Rawlings during the Tibet mission of 1904.

MAN AND THE HEIGHTS.
"Obviously there must be a considerable amount of feeling the way before the ascent is finally made. And it will mean, as I said in my address, that those who go on the expedition will have to keep themselves at the highest pitch of physical fitness, mental alertness, and moral courage and endurance. They will have to be prepared to undergo the severest hardships, and run considerable risks. And all this without the prospect of making a single penny. The geologist predicts to a certainty that no gold will be found on the summit, and even if gold did exist there no one would be able to work it."

"Whilst, however, climbing Mount Everest will not put a pound into anyone's pocket, but will take a good many pounds out, the accomplishment of such a feat will elevate the human spirit and will give men, and especially us geographers, a feeling that we really are getting the upper hand on the earth, and that we are acquiring a true mastery of our surroundings."

"As long as we impotently creep about at the foot of these mighty mountains and gaze on their summits without attempting to ascend them, we entertain towards them a too excessive feeling of awe. We are most afraid of them. We have a secret fear that they, the material, are dominating us, the spiritual. But as soon as we have stood on their summit, we feel that we dominate them—that we, the spiritual."

have ascendancy over them in material. And if man stands on earth's highest summit he will have an increased pride and confidence in himself in his struggle for ascendancy over matter. This is the incalculable good which the ascent of Mount Everest will confer."

The chief difficulty in making the ascent is the height, 29,002 ft. above sea level. The Duke of the Abruzzi made an attempt some years ago to ascend K2 which is 28,278 ft. He found it impossible to ascend the actual peak itself, but he climbed to a height of 24,000 ft. on a neighbouring peak, and that is the world's highest climb at present.

The record before the Duke of the Abruzzi's expedition was held by Captain T. G. Longstaff, who climbed to nearly 24,000 ft. Other notable climbers in the Himalayas have been Mr. Douglas Freshfield, Sir Martin Conway, and Professor Norman Collie, each of whom has been president of the Alpine Club and is particularly interested in the project of climbing Mount Everest, and Dr. and Mrs. Bullock Workman.

"Mr. Harold Raeburn left England on a Friday to make an attempt to ascend Kinchenjunga, which is 28,150 ft. above sea level. Dr. Kellas is also going to the Himalayas this year to make experiments in the use of oxygen for the purpose of giving relief in very high climbs. From these expeditions we hope to gain more knowledge of the conditions at very great heights and what oxygen may do to diminish the difficulties."

PAINTING THE MOUNTAIN.

Sir Francis hopes that it may be possible for an artist to accompany the expedition, for even the best photographs reproduce scarcely anything of the real character of great mountains.

"In the Himalayas," he points out, "is the grandest scenery in the world, and not a painter from Europe ever goes there. Just one, the great Russian, Vereshchagin; used to go, but he went down in a battleship in the Russo-Japanese war, and his pictures are now buried somewhere in Russia. The Indian services might do something, and they have indeed produced one great painter of Himalayas scenery, Colonel Tanner. But the services are limited, and it is to Europe that we must mainly look. There is no reason why an English

DON'T NEGLECT YOUR FAMILY.

WHEN you fail to provide your family with a bottle of Chamberlain's Cough and Diarrhoea Remedy at this season of the year, you are neglecting them, as bowel complaint is sure to be prevalent, and it is too dangerous a malady to be trifled with. This is especially true if there are children in the family. A dose or two of this remedy will place the trouble within control and perhaps save a life, or at least a doctor's bill. For sale by all Chemists and Storekeepers.

AUSTRIAN GENERAL.

SEEMS APPOINTMENT
IN ENGLAND.

Among the advertisers for "appointments" in the Times last week says *Truth*, was an Austrian general, sixty-five years of age and pensioned before the war, who, owing to the dissolution of the Empire, is seeking a position of trust in England. Most of the other advertisers were British ex-officers, and a lady correspondent asks whether I do not consider it disgraceful that after fighting for their country they should now have to fight one of the late enemy for a job. Well, it does not strike me in that way, but rather as pathetic that this Austrian veteran of sixty-five should fondly imagine that there is any prospect of employment for a man of his age and nationality in this country.

"QUENTIN DURWARD."

NEW BRITISH OPERA.

In mail week at the Lyceum, London, the Carl Rosa Company gave two operas by British composers—"Pro Patria," by Mr. Percy Colson, and "Quentin Durward," by Mr. Alick Maclean.

The first-named was performed last summer at the same theatre by the same company, but Mr. Maclean's opera, which founded on the Walter Scott novel, has not been heard before in London.

Mr. Maclean, of course, is no novice at operatic composition for several of his works have received production in past years. In this particular work, which made a very agreeable impression by its melodiousness and its sense of effect, he shows himself thoroughly familiar with the stage and the operatic manner in music.

artist should not accompany the expedition, but he must be a climber as well as a painter.

"On the first expedition to Mount Everest it may be only possible to send a photographer. But this will be a pioneering expedition to open the way, at least, for the painter. And then we may have Mount Everest pictured in all her varied and ever varying moods, as I have, from a distance, seen her for three most treasured months—now serene and majestic, now in a tumult of fury, now rooted solid on earth, now hung high in the azure, now hard and material, now ethereal, as spirit, now stern and austere, cold and white and grey; now warm and radiant and of every most delicate hue; now in one aspect, now in its precisely opposite, but always proud and compelling always pure and unspotted, and always pointing us starward."

NOTICES.

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High Class English Jewellery.

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By taking our "ROOSTER BRAND" MACARONI, PASTE STARS, EGG-NOODLES, VERMICELLI, or other kinds of Soap Stuffs, REGULARLY you will have no complaint of any kind of sickness, as all our Products being manufactured from Flour of the Best Quality and under the most Sanitary Method can be easily digested and give you GOOD HEALTH & STRENGTH. Large quantities have been exported to various parts of the World. Your esteemed Orders will receive our prompt and careful attention. Terms moderate, especially for Agencies.



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\$1.25 \$2.00 \$3.75

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A perfume that will satisfy the most critical—in elegant crystal globe bottles.

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FOR DAINTY HOME SEWN
"LINGERIE"SUPPLIED IN
THREE WEIGHTS
AND PRICES—STANDARD.
FINE
SUPER-FINE.

The China Mail.

"TRUTH, JUSTICE, PUBLIC SERVICE."

HONGKONG, FRIDAY, JULY 30, 1920.

PROGRESS?

Man's idea of progress cannot be separated from nature's idea of adaptation. It means making life more comfortable, perfecting the conditions, paring away the disagreeables. Arrived at this stage of thought, we must take cognizance of more than one point of view.

To that eye of faith which believes in the moral perfectibility of man, and declares that this life is only a preparation for another, pre-ordained better, human efforts toward other forms of progress, social amelioration and the like, should seem impertinent. Why mitigate the rigour of a test, and so make it less a test? Why dismiss those teachers in a preparatory school—the hardships and trials of this life—and so make the probation for the next less satisfactory? We do not know why men entertain mutually exclusive ideas. Presumably they require an injection of the germ of analysis; the serum of savvy.

Then there is the pseudoscientific perception of evolutionary progress, as a movement toward a perfection that must ultimately come automatically and in accordance with law, we neither helping nor hindering. That is not the scientific idea of evolution. That is not true Darwinism, which recognizes no plan or scheme, but merely the visible facts of a process. Moreover, it is decidedly not a morally wholesome belief, since it must (but for that same chronic inconsistency of men) tend toward a dissipation of all effort, and so to stagnation. Adaptation requires effort.

Adaptation is an idea that embraces more than the adaptation of the individual to an unchangeable environment. It includes the adaptation of the environment to man, which in some ways man has actually achieved, and is still busily attempting. In either case we get something. We are obliged to call progress. The Pacific islander becomes a perfect swimmer; the Hollander builds great sea dykes; both are modes of meeting the environment of too much sea. The great cause of adaptation was al-

ways climate, responsible for wonderful changes of habit in men, who could not change the climates to suit themselves. To a comparatively infinitesimal extent, and tentatively, man now essays to modify climate, by encouraging rainfall, for instance. As his understanding of the conditions grows, he may yet be able to do more.

Physically, the aspect which naturally comes first, we can hardly claim that man has progressed very far, at all. He is certainly not, with all his study of disease, healthier in the mass than his earlier progenitors. He is less robust, less agile. His teeth are going. His clothes and devices in the name of progress, such as cooking and clothes and machinery, have helped him to progress mentally, in cunning, but also to retrogress in health. Progress has meant new ailments with which he must now cope.

Intellectually his progress could be exaggerated. So far back as intellectual vestiges are traceable, we find a human mentality quite capable of any of our modern stunts, given the material means, and accidental discoveries that have favoured and helped our thinkers. Still, on the whole, we seem content to register an appreciable progress in the powers of the brain. Not general enough, not yet sufficiently widespread, but extending as generation succeeds generation. This in any case was inevitable, experience being the best teacher, and perfection (for what stands for it) coming by practice.

Morally, the progress of mankind beyond historic knowledge is less certain. Forms have changed; but the proportions of virtue and of vice remained fairly constant, whether we contemplate the ancient Greek philosopher or the modern patriot. Civilization has not eradicated the barbaric passions, emotions, and instincts, nor has it evolved anything adequately to curb them and keep them in check.

All our social organizations are quite obviously still in the experimental stage, and we are no farther in this department than the people of the dead races and dominions of whom we have records. While as for individuals, we get very little more out of life, in some ways much less, than our faraway forefathers did. On the whole, where we may feel obliged to admit signs of progress, we may modify the admission by stating that the progress seems to have been in a circle. We have advanced peripherally, but are still as near the fixed leg of the compass as when we started on our round.

ADVERSARIA.

The football season is less further away than MATTERS. It was. Has anything been done about providing sufficient grounds? This is not a tuppenny-ha-penny matter. It affects so many people that no apology is needed for giving it full attention. We have had two references to it in the off-season, because that is the time to get busy making ready for the next. Ask anybody interested in the League, or in football generally—they all tell the same tale, that more grounds are required. Our solution was extra grounds on the upper or western portion of the Happy Valley, removing the golf bunkers for the purpose. Our argument was that few golfers use this place, and that they have other places. We also noted the danger of golf to the public in this part. One man had his eye knocked out. The idea of sending footballers over to the New Territory is ridiculous.

Last season, there were 42 teams in the "Second Division" and six in the First—18 teams all with their own grounds, and there are only three grounds at Happy Valley. By using these twice, at 2.30 and 4.12, of the teams were able to play. Six were out of it. Six League teams had to stand down. Next season, owing to the bigger naval and military contingents, the number of teams will be more. The need should really be seen to at once. The Yau-mai ground is useless, indeed, too dangerous to play on, and Rowland must have a ground. That should be only, provided there is goodwill on the part of the Government.

The Mercantile Service Association Report. It is shocked at the news that the famous collier steamer "River Clyde," which made such an immortal page of history at Gallipoli on April 27, 1915, has been sold to Spanish owners for £11,500. The treasury gains that, but the nation loses a national relic and a treasured trophy, says the service paper. It admits that it is a matter of sentiment, but we know that many members of the Mercantile Marine will share that sentiment.

The V.R.C. Midget Club was formally organized last night. Twenty-two small yachts—twelve footers—have been contracted for, and are to be delivered at the rate of three a month. It is hoped to have races before the end of the year. The following officials were elected: Commodore: R. E. Bellis. Vice-commodore: Tom Wright. Treasurer: M. Berg. Secretary: Messrs. Agassiz, Alves, and Soares.

The idea, which was Mr. Wittell's, is an excellent one, adding still another branch of sport to the V.R.C., and offering an excellent opportunity to the younger members to take up boat-sailing. The Midgets are half-locked, have a centreboard, and a quite respectable sail spread. The subscribing members will "draw" for the boats as they are laid down.

No. After one "flash" in the pan, which pleased us, the subsequent literary efforts of "Tony" compel us to withdraw our sincere intention of reviewing them. He is obviously, with a painful obviousness, one of those scintillating literary apes who have to be categorized *infra classum*. "Rosemary and Rue" (a caption that belongs to a real writer, by the way, named Lucas) between conception, gestation, and parturition, seems to require considerably more time than the result warrants—another case of the *ridiculus mus*.

Le culte de la raison chère et libre, la recherche de la beauté harmonieuse et simple, toutes les manifestations de la pensée.

This man is in no way to blame for the great peace defeat, nor are his political opponents in America solely to blame for the bad start the L.O.N. has got. The L.O.N. was crumpled away by Clemenceau and Lloyd George, who both, the one from conviction and the other from opportunism, dubbed the Fourteen Points "pro-German."

The "Supreme Council" now has more "scraps of paper" to its discredit than the Germans had, and nothing can be done, other than on Fabian lines, in the way of moral progress and sensible civilization until the Supreme Council is scrapped. It is a curious thing that the Americans should have done the right thing from a wrong idea, and that President Wilson should have done the wrong thing with the right idea. The Peace Terms are in many points quite inconsistent with the principles of the Covenant, and the Senators did well to reject them, though it was the League Covenant, and not the Clemenceau terms, that they boggled at. President Wilson obstinately clung to "all or nothing," fearing to lose the Covenant, whereas he should have been glad to lose the other part. Those who believe in the Fourteen Points (and all honest men do that) will feel that the Covenant, once aired, howsoever often crumpled, cannot die. Fabian tactics to keep it alive are all that are possible at present. The patient must get worse before it gets better, and then we shall see.

A man writes from ADVISE. Canton to the Editor: It is good work to disabuse our people of the crippling delusion that we are "unimpaired perfect." Hoping to pass the porch of Hades the other day, and hearing louder screams than usual, I enquired the meaning. The inn at the gates told me it was the date for the monthly super-torture of the man who originated the saying: "My country, right or wrong." Right, my country or another's, is the correct version of the moralist.

To which Adversarius adds: And anyway, Lloyd George and W. Churchill are not my country, any more than gall stones are my body.

SYNTHETIC OPIUM?

IS THIS A CONFIDENCE MAN?

QUEER "BUSINESS PROPOSITION."

This morning as ever was, into the office of a friend of ours, entered boldly a glib stranger. Swarthy, seemingly "Portuguese or Eurasian," according to our informant, he was a young man in the twenties. He asked permission to unfold a business proposition.

Incidentally he mentioned a few local names of prominence as the names of acquaintances, and said he had just come down from Canton. In Canton he has a friend, a German doctor, who has found out how to make opium from cheap chemicals. The real drug is dear. The demand is always great. Here was fortune to be picked up. Would our friend care to come in on the ground floor?

Our friend wouldn't and didn't, and got rid of him, telephoning us at once. We shall be glad to hear from any other business men upon whom this enterprising man called. Probably the police will be just as eager to be let in on it.

It is obvious that if synthetic opium can be cheaply produced at Canton, a proposition we do not unquestioningly accept there are big problems ahead for the Hongkong government, and for others.

We are mean and suspicious enough to guess at a "con game," however.

LOTTERY TICKETS SEIZED.

ALLEGED GAMING HOUSE.

CASE FROM KOWLOON CITY.

Before Magistrate Hutchison at the Magistracy this morning, Inspector Fox, of Kowloon City, charged three Chinese with the unlawful possession of a large quantity of poppy lottery tickets, and implements for the printing of same. The first defendant was further charged with keeping a common gaming house.

Mr. Leo Longinotto appeared for the defence and applied for a remand and bail.

The Inspector said that the defendants came to Kowloon City from the country and rented a flat for the alleged purpose of making boots and shoes to be sold at Canton and Macao. Instead, they brought to the flat printing machines, types and other implements, and printed lottery tickets for sale. As the result of information received, the Police yesterday raided the flat and seized the machinery, etc.

The Inspector did not object to a remand but asked that bail be fixed in the sum of \$500 each.

Mr. Longinotto said that while he did not think that \$500 was too much in the case of the first defendant, who was the alleged ringleader, he certainly thought that in the case of the other two defendants, \$500 was too much, in view of the fact that they were only jokers of the other defendant, and acted as salesmen.

The Magistrate: Salesmen? Counsel: Distributors I mean. I suggest that \$500 for the first defendant, and \$250 for each of the others would meet the case.

The Magistrate: I accept that. The case was remanded until August 6.

Before Magistrate Smith, at the Magistracy this morning, a Chinese was charged with the unlawful possession of a large quantity of poppy lottery tickets. He said that he was a runner. He was employed by a man to take the trunk containing the poppy tickets to the country. He had no knowledge of the contents, Inspector Moore, who prosecuted, said that he believed the defendant's story and would not press the charge against him. The Magistrate discharged the defendant and ordered the confiscation of the contraband.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

Mrs. A. R. Lowe, accompanied by Miss Lowe, sister of the Hon. A. R. Lowe, returned to the Colony this morning.

Mr. Hugh Jeffries, whose death in Japan we announced yesterday, was a partner of Russell and Co., the founders of Shewan Tomes and Co.

The removal of the old Customs House on the Nantao Bund has been definitely decided upon. This and the erection of a new building is expected to take place shortly.

Peking papers report that the Hon. Bertrand Russell, the noted British philosopher, has accepted a chair in the Peking University, and will give lectures from this autumn.

The Mainichi says that the Nippon Yusen Kaisha has decided to disburse 2,000 employees at the head and branch offices throughout Japan. The figures represent about 20 per cent. of the total number of the company's employees.

Charged before Magistrate Hutchison at the Magistracy this morning with the theft from the Pokfulam branch of a quantity of branded bags, the property of the Dairy Farm Co., a coolie was sentenced to one month's imprisonment with hard labour.

Tenders are being invited from the public by the Tsing House for the sale of a collection of gold and silver plates and other kinds of utensils, formerly forming a part of "the articles of the Imperial Household." Ten prospective buyers have offered prices, the highest bid being \$160,000.

Lieutenants Ferrarini and Masiero, the Italian fliers who successfully completed the Rome-Tokyo flight, will shortly pass through Shanghai on their return to their native land. They expect later, we are informed, to try to fly from Rome to Tokyo, via the Atlantic, America, and the Pacific. They hope then to come to China. The machines they will use will be of 2,200 horse-power.

The Japanese Aviation School authorities have decided to produce aeroplanes of a purely Japanese type. Among those already under construction is a machine with the upper plane 10.75 metres long, and the lower plane 10.08 metres long, which will carry an American Holcat 125 H.P. engine. This machine is expected to be completed towards the end of this month. Preparations are also being made for the construction of machines for fighting, pursuing, and reconnoitering purposes.

During his recent stay in Japan, Dr. Wu Ting-fang received many anonymous letters and was the subject of many newspaper attacks accusing him of being a pro-American and suggesting that he should go to America instead of staying in Japan. Dr. Wu's secretary, commenting on these criticisms, states that the veteran statesman went to Japan to recuperate and to enjoy the beautiful landscapes of that country. "When Dr. Wu left Shanghai, he left all connection with governmental matters behind him."

The managing editor of the St. Louis Republic, Sam Hellman, is coming to China and Japan for a trip this fall. He won the expenses for the journey in a bet with a wealthy cigar manufacturer, A. Kennedy, over the prospects of Governor Gardner of Missouri being a Democratic candidate for United States Senator from his estate. Mr. Kennedy said "No" and bet Mr. Hellman a trip to the Far East against whatever the editor was carrying in his pockets at the time. It was \$9.75.

All who are interested in the plantation rubber industry will cordially welcome the honour of Knight Bachelor which has been conferred by His Majesty on Henry Alexander Wickham, Esq., for services in connection with the rubber services rendered in 1876, and resulted in Mr. Wickham earning the well-deserved title of "the father" of the rubber plantation industry. The recognition may be a little belated, but if the official wheels revolve slowly they sometimes go round surely.

Disaster has overtaken the two vessels which were being towed to Ywa from Shanghai by the ocean going tug "Friesland," the coastal pilot on this tender being Captain Kearney.

A wireless sent out by the "Friesland" stated that she had sought shelter from the typhoon under the lee of Taichu but when the typhoon passed over there the dredger "Shanghai" and the tug being towed were blown out to sea and the "Friesland" although having both anchors down and straining, full speed into the teeth of the storm, was dragging her cables. No further wireless signals have been picked up from her in Shanghai so it may be presumed the "Friesland" has safely weathered the typhoon and is now searching for her towed charges. Taichu is about 200 miles South of Shanghai. The s.s. "Friesland" left Shanghai on July 10, says the Shanghai Gazette.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

Among the official callers at the office of the Canton Civil Governor last Sunday was H.B.M. Consul-General H. Goffe.

War Savings Certificates to the number of 16,207 were sold in the F.M.S. during last year. These certificates, sold at \$15 each, are payable five years from date of issue at \$20.

Nine earthquakes were experienced in Tokyo on July 12 between half-past ten in the morning and noon, but very few persons noticed them as the quakes were slight. An officer of the Central Observatory says that Oshima and they think that the volcano on that island has probably had several small eruptions but the misthings about the top, so persistently that they are unable to take any observations.

Four of the best known scientists in Japan left on the "Peria Maru" a week ago to attend the Pan-Pacific Scientific Congress to be held at Honolulu in August. Scientists from all countries bordering on the Pacific will be present, in addition to many representatives are: Dr. Omori, seismologist; Dr. Yamazaki, geographer; Dr. Kishigami, marine biologist; and Dr. Shigata, botanical chemistry expert.

Captain Mackenzie, who has made so many flights in Peking, flights recently when he piloted an S.V.5 to Tientsin and back. The journey, taking the time from when he took off at the aviation grounds at Nanyuan until he landed there on his return from Tientsin, took a shade under one hour and ten minutes, according to the Peking correspondent of the Peking and Tientsin Times. The journey to Tientsin took exactly thirty minutes and the return trip forty on account of a heavy wind having to be faced.

M. Fernand Pila has been appointed French Minister at Bangkok, as announced. M. Pila has a good knowledge of the Far East. He commenced his career in 1900 as Assistant-Consul at Peking, and was afterwards in the Consular service at Shanghai, Chefoo and Foochow. In recent years he has been actively engaged at the Quai d'Orsay in the study of economical questions arising out of the Peace Treaty. M. Fernand Pila is the author of two volumes which appeared recently under the pseudonym of Jean Francoeur, entitled, "Reflections of an Optimistic Diplomatist."

The American Congressional party, which arrived in Manila last Saturday, is expected to be in Hongkong August 4. There will be some 150 members in the party, about 50 of whom will be ladies. The party will probably visit Canton on the morning of August 5, by the night boats and return to Hongkong the afternoon on a special train. While in Canton the Civil Administration will invite the visitors to a luncheon. Before leaving the city in the afternoon, the Members of Parliament there will give a reception in honour of the visiting Congressmen and party.

The Sunday Express in mail week had the authority of Sir Dighton Probyn, Comptroller of Queen Alexandra's household, for stating that the alarming rumours prevalent regarding her Majesty's health and the possibility of the postponement of Ascot races were absolutely without foundation. Her general health is well maintained. There is improvement regarding the clouding of vision due to the rupture of a small vessel of the eye, occasioned by the strain of a severe bronchial cough, but this improvement is necessarily slow. She has been out of doors several times recently.

The late Canon Rawnsley records a remarkable premonition on the part of his famous friend, Lord Tennyson. Speaking "sally" of politics at Farringford, he foretold the coming of Armageddon, the breaking of a terrible storm in which all the forces of evil would be let loose upon the world. "I shall not live to see it, but you will." And presently he added, with a reference to his own "Idylls," "I have no doubt he old order will yield place to the new, and we shall yet find higher gods than Mammon and Materialism. But the storm will come; the battle of Modred in the West will yet be fought." This was in 1884.

That man is a little nearer to the ape than woman was the theory advanced by the Professor of Eugenics in the University of London, when lecturing in London on the evolution of man. Fortuitous discoveries, the professor said, had mainly led to the knowledge of evolution gained during the past 20 years. At the same rate of discovery another 10 years might reveal the nature of the first apes. The man and of the man-like ape. "In the meantime," he declared, "we might as well assume that monkeys are descended from men and men from monkeys." Man won his way as a fighter and not as a shy and gentle creature, and the "hunting to kill" idea might have been responsible for the trouble of the past five years.

HONGKONG CABLE SERVICE.

OVERLOADED WITH BUSINESS.

SERIOUS DRAWBACKS.

The following comment on the cable connections at Hongkong appears in *Commercial News* of Los Angeles:

The cable service out of Hongkong directly or indirectly depends upon three concerns—the Great Northern Company, a Danish corporation, which in a general way serves to the north and in normal times connects with Europe by way of Siberia; the Eastern Extension Telegraph Company, a British corporation, which in a general way serves to the south and connects with Europe by way of Suez; and the Pacific Commercial Company, an American corporation, which has no direct connection at Hongkong but which carries Hongkong messages to the United States by way of Manila. There is also the Chinese Government's land telegraph service, which has an office in Hongkong and accepts business direct for transmission by land not only over China and to India, but to other countries by way of connecting cables at Shanghai or elsewhere.

The Great Northern Company has a cable from Hongkong to Shanghai, with a relay and transmitting station at Amoy. It has two cables from Shanghai to Japan and one cable from Japan to Vladivostok. Previous to the unsettled conditions in Siberia this company gave a regular and general European service and a service to the United States by way of its cables to Vladivostok via Shanghai and Japan and thence by way of Siberia and Russia. Since the war, particularly since the revolution in Russia, however, this route can not be followed and the company's business for Europe is turned over to the Eastern Extension Company, the understanding being that the companies divide the charges evenly.

The Eastern Extension Company has a cable from Hongkong to Shanghai; one from Hongkong to Manila and from Manila to Australia; two or possibly three cables from Hongkong to Singapore and from Singapore to India; and two from India to Suez, where business is turned over to the Eastern Telegraph Company, and affiliated concern.

The Pacific Commercial Company has cables from Manila to the United States by way of Guam and Honolulu. Business for the United States is handled through the Eastern Extension Company to the Pacific Commercial Company. The three concerns work in close co-operation.

In a general way the cable service on all of these lines is fairly satisfactory when the business can be handled. At the present time they are so overloaded with business that they are from four to nine days behind in handling cablegrams between Hongkong and Europe and the United States in either direction and the resulting delays in commercial communication is one of the most serious drawbacks to business in all lines in the Far East.

The Chinese Government's land lines give a very fair service, all things considered. There are difficulties with languages and similar matters.

ILLEGAL OPIUM

COSTS AMOY-CHINESE \$1,500.

When a Chinese was this morning charged before Magistrate Hutchison with the unlawful possession of 30 taels of prepared non-Government opium, he admitted the offence, and said that the drug was given to him by a friend in Amoy to take to his relatives in the country. He did not know, however, that it was illegal to possess opium in Hongkong.

Sergeant Moss, who prosecuted said that the defendant was searched as he was leaving the a.s. "Anakusa Maru" yesterday, and the drug was found tied round his legs and waist. The Magistrate decided to convict the defendant, who then pleaded for a chance on the ground that he had a mother over 90 years of age to support.

The Magistrate imposed a fine of \$1,500, or in default six months' imprisonment with hard labour. The drug was confiscated.

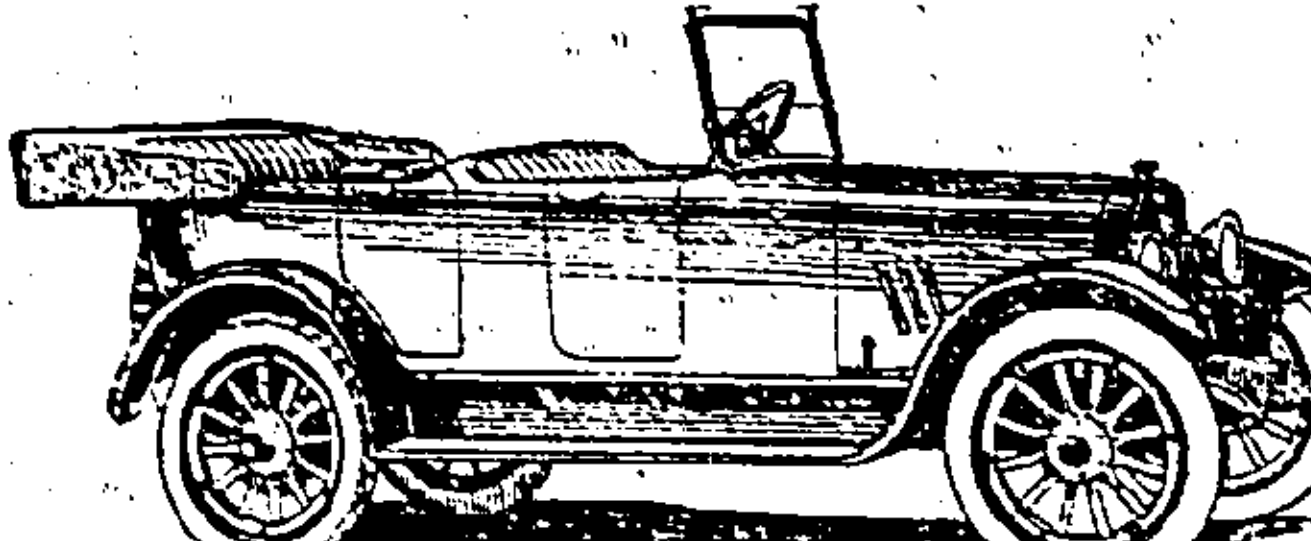
TRADE MARKS.

ALLEGED UNLAWFUL USE.

A Chinese was yesterday charged at the Magistracy with having unlawfully used a trade mark resembling the "Three Star" trade mark of Messrs. W. R. Loxley & Co., on some soap sold by him.

Mr. H. L. Dennis prosecuted. The defendant, who was represented by Mr. Leo Longinotto, elected to be tried by the Supreme Court. After evidence had been given by the police to the effect that acting on information received, they visited the ground floor of No. 81, Chan Shing Street, and there seized several cases of soap, some machinery and other paraphernalia used for the manufacture of soap, the Magistrate committed the defendant for trial.

MERCURY MOTOR CAR
CO.
59-61 Des Voeux Road Central,
HONGKONG.



GENERAL OFFICE 1345
MAIN BRANCH & SHOW ROOM
ROBINSON ROAD, HONGKONG
WEST BRANCH 1345
WORK SHOP 230

TO-DAY'S CABLES.

(Reuter's Service to the China Mail.)

PLEBISCITE DISTRICTS.

WITHDRAWAL OF TROOPS DEFERRED.

SAFEGUARDING HELP TO POLAND.

BOULOGNE, July 28.

The Conference confirmed the decision of the Paris Conference of Ambassadors to defer the withdrawal of the British and Italian troops from the plebiscite districts in Eastern Prussia, and also instructed Sir H. Tower, the Allied High Commissioner at Danzig, to prevent Allied help to Poland being jeopardized by political acts like the dockers' strike.

EASTERN PEACE.

WILL THE ALLIES REPEAT THEIR MISTAKE?

GERMAN CHANCELLOR CURIOUS.

BERLIN, July 28.

Herr Simons, in a speech in the Reichstag, emphasised Germany's responsibility in participating in the support of Poland. He added that it would be curious to see whether the Entente would repeat the Versailles mistake of endeavouring to solve the Eastern Europe question without Germany. If so, he believed that eastern peace would be more unstable than the Versailles peace ever could become.

SHOULD AMERICA PARTICIPATE?

LONDON, July 28.

At Boulogne yesterday Mr. Millerand proposed the Polish condition as a *sine qua non* de France for the participation in any peace conference. He also intimated that that was not the only condition. It is understood in official circles that it is possible America should unite with Britain and France in their attitude toward the Soviet. Mr. Lloyd George agreed to the condition with regard to Poland, and the conference ended, the appearance being given that the two Governments are in complete accord.

REICHSTAG APPROVES SPA AGREEMENT.
The Reichstag approved the Spa agreement overwhelmingly.

LONDON, July 27.

The Soviet trade mission, including M. Kamenetz and M. Milutin, left Moscow on July 26 to join M. Krassin in Stockholm. The mission is expected in London next week.

AMERICAN COAL EXPORT.

WASHINGTON, July 28.

The Inter-State Commerce Commission has temporarily discontinued the export of coal.

CEYLON.

CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGES OUTLINED.

POPULAR ELECTION EXTENDED.

SUBSTANTIAL MAJORITY FOR UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS.

LONDON, July 28.

In the House of Commons, replying to Col. J. C. Wedgwood, Colonel Amery outlined the changes in the constitution of Ceylon giving a large measure of popular control over the administration, which Lord Milnes had decided to recommend to the King.

He said that it was proposed to alter the constitution of the Legislative Council by considerably extending the principle of popular election of members and giving unofficial members a substantial majority over the official vote. Excluding the Governor, who would preside, the reformed council would consist of 37 members comprising 14 official, and 23 unofficial. Sixteen, and subsequently 19, unofficials would be elected of whom two would represent the Europeans and one the Burghers. In order to prevent deadlocks in essential matters, the Governor would be empowered to declare the passing of any measure of paramount importance, whereupon the measure may be carried by the votes of the official members. The Governor would also be empowered to prevent proceedings in Council with regard to any measure affecting the safety and tranquillity of Ceylon. Three unofficial members on the Executive Council would be appointed.

FRENCH IN SYRIA.

GENERAL GOURAUD'S CONDITIONS ACCEPTED.

PARIS, July 28.

A message from Beirut states that the French occupied Aleppo on July 23 and entered Damascus on July 25. A New Syrian government has been formed and has accepted General Gouraud's conditions, including immediate disarmament and the deposition of Emir Feisal, who has been asked to leave the country.

THE FRENCH TERMS.

General Gouraud's conditions include the payment of 10,000,000 francs as reparation for the damage caused by guerilla warfare, the Syrian army to be reduced and transformed into a police force, war material to be handed over to the French, and the principal guilty ones to be tried by military tribunals.

KING HEDJAZ'S PROTEST.

LONDON, July 28.

King Hedjaz has recalled his representative at the peace conference in Paris owing to French action in Syria against which the King protested to the League of Nations.

COAL REPARATIONS.

BIG PAYMENT IN TREASURY BONDS.

PARIS, July 28.

The Boulogne Conference has decided that the Reparations Commission should be instructed to ensure the execution of the Spa agreement relative to coal. Germany is handing over on September 1 to the Commission treasury bonds to the value of 60,000,000 marks in gold falling due on May 1, 1921 with interest of six per cent. French circles are very satisfied with the results of the conference which was considered to correspond with French wishes.

TURKISH NATIONALIST COMMANDER CAPTURED.

ATHENS, July 28.

It is reported that Jafartayir, the Turkish Nationalist commander in Thrace, has been captured.

POLICE SERVANTS THEFT.

"\$160 TO BUY MEDICINE FOR DYING FATHER."

Sergeant Moss, of the Water Police, this morning charged a cook boy employed on board Police Launch No. 4, with the theft of \$200, the property of Lance Sergeant, Butcher. The defendant pleaded guilty to stealing \$160.

The Sergeant accepted the plea, and said that at 3.30 p.m., on the Wednesday, when Lance Sergeant Butcher went to his cabin to change in order to go ashore, he found his hat box broken open and the \$200 missing. When he asked the defendant if he knew anything about it he denied all knowledge of it. Yesterday, as the result of certain information received, a constable was sent to a house in Samshupo, and there a friend of the defendant's handed \$160 to the constable with an intimation that the defendant had given it to him to keep. The Sergeant said that the money had passed the hands of no fewer than three persons before it was recovered.

Replying to the Magistrate, the Sergeant said that the defendant, who had been employed as cook boy by various police officers for the last six years, had hitherto borne a good character.

Asked why he stole the money, the defendant said that his father was very ill in the country and on the verge of death. He took the money to buy medicine.

The Magistrate passed sentence of six weeks' hard labour.

TO-DAY'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED.

ASSISTANT (British) wanted for General Office work. State Age, experience and salary required to: Box No. 1221, c/o "CHINA MAIL."

PUBLIC AUCTION

THE Undersigned have received instructions to sell by Public Auction, on

FRIDAY, August 27, 1920, at 12 o'clock (noon), at their Sales Rooms, Daddell Street, (For Account of the Concerned),

The Wreck of the S.S. "CHIYO MARU," as she now lies off the Lema Islands. Terms: Cash on fall of hammer when the wreck will be at purchaser's risk.

LAMBERT BROS., Auctioneers. Hongkong, July 29, 1920.

NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

From EUROPE and STRAITS.

THE Company's Steamship "KAGA MARU," having arrived from the above Ports, Consignees of Cargo are hereby informed that their Goods are being landed and placed at their risk in the GODOWNS at KOWLOON, where each consignment will be sorted out mark by mark and delivery can be obtained as soon as the Goods are landed.

Options Goods will be carried on unless instructions are given to the contrary before NOON, TO-DAY. Goods not cleared by August 6, 1920, will be subject to rent.

Damaged packages must be left in the Godowns for examination by the Consignee's and the Co.'s representatives at an appointed hour on TUESDAY and FRIDAY. All claims must be presented within ten days of the steamer's arrival here, after which date they cannot be recognized. No claims will be admitted after the goods have left the Godown.

NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA, Agents. Hongkong, July 30, 1920.

THEATRE ROYAL.

Positively Our Last Night
TO-NIGHT! TO-NIGHT!
Friday, July 30th

The Leyland Hodgson Revue Company

IN London's Most Successful Revue
PERSIANA PERSIANA PERSIANA PERSIANA
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LOSS OF LUEN ON.

JUDGMENT FOR DEFENDANTS.

The marine insurance action arising out of the loss of the Luen On was concluded in the Supreme Court yesterday. Mr. Justice Gompertz, Acting Chief Justice, giving judgment for the defendants.

The Luen On was lost in November 1917, while on a voyage to Manila and Young Kong Yun, trading as Wat Tze now claimed from the Young Shing Insurance and Investment Co. Ltd., the sum of \$20,000, under a marine policy of insurance for that amount dated November 7, 1917, on the Luen On subscribed by the defendants.

Mr. W. H. Drummond, instructed by Mr. C. E. H. Beavis appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. Eldon Potter and Mr. F. C. Jenkins, instructed by Mr. G. R. Haywood was for the defendants.

The defence was that plaintiff was not interested in the Luen On and that the vessel was not sea-worthy at the commencement of the risk. The defendants denied that the vessel was insured against perils of the seas. The defendants were liable under the policy only in the event of being sunk during the voyage by running against rocks or reefs, or by typhoon or waves. Defendants denied that the vessel was lost or alternately, if she had been lost, denied that her loss was caused by any of the perils insured against. It was also contended that the policy did not cover this particular voyage, as defendants liability was determined when she put back into Hongkong after starting on a voyage to Manila. His Lordship held that plaintiff had failed to discharge the onus cast upon him of proving that the vessel was sunk by one of the perils insured against.

ALLEGED THREATS.

TWO MEN CHARGED.

HEAVY BAIL FIXED.

Mr. E. Davidson appeared before Magistrate Hutchison this morning to defend two Chinese charged with demanding money by threats and applying for a remand and bail.

Inspector Willis, who prosecuted, said that seven or eight men, of whom the defendants were two, went to a brothel in Yufu Street, West Point, yesterday and demanded \$20 from one of the inmates, threatening to do her harm if the money was not forthcoming. She told them that she did not have any money in the house at the time, and asked them to call later. When they returned that evening, the woman blew a police whistle, and the men took to their heels. A couple of constables gave chase and arrested the two defendants. The Inspector said he had no objection to a remand, but he would have to ask for bail to be fixed in the sum of \$200 each.

Mr. Davidson said that the sum involved was only \$20, and he thought that to demand a bail of \$200 was extraordinary.

The Magistrate said that having regard to the locality where the offence was alleged to have been committed, he thought the bail was quite fair. The case would be remanded until Thursday next.

THEATRE ROYAL.

LEYLAND HODGSON CO.

FINAL PERFORMANCE TO-NIGHT.

In the Theatre Royal last night the Leyland Hodgson Company considerably enhanced its reputation by the entertaining manner in which it presented "Rosebud," a comedy in which the individual, no less than the concerted, efforts of the company to amuse the audience, were highly successful.

The best piece in the Company's repertoire has been reserved for the final performance to-night, when "Persiana," a delightful comedy, with beautiful scenery and brilliant of humour, will be presented. But small idea of the excellence of this laughable piece was given in the brief outline of the plot published in yesterday's China Mail, as the success of the comedy is greatly enhanced, not only by the laughable contrivances which frequently arise, but also by the merit of individual contributions.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE PRESERVATION OF WESTMINSTER ABBEY.

[To the Editor of the "China Mail."]

Sir,—We learned from your columns some days ago that the Dean and Chapter of Westminster Abbey have appealed for a sum of £250,000 for the preservation of the fabric of the Abbey.

The Church Body of St. John's Cathedral has decided to give the collections here on Sunday next, August 1st, for this purpose.

As the preservation of the Abbey is a matter of interest to all patriotic citizens of our Empire, I venture to address you on the subject. The Hon. Treasurer of this Cathedral (Mr. N. C. Wilson, the Mercantile Bank) will gladly receive any contributions for this purpose from those who are unable to be present here on Sunday, and I will forward them with the collection—Yours, etc.,

H. COBLEY MOYLE.
St. John's Cathedral,
Hongkong, July 29th, 1920.

BILLIARDS.

PETTY OFFICERS' MESS.

AN EXCITING GAME.

On Tuesday evening, at the Petty Officers' Mess, there was witnessed one of the most exciting billiard matches that has taken place in the history of the building, as the outcome of a challenge put forward by Stoker Petty Officer Gillard on his arrival on the China Station, which was quickly accepted by Petty Officer Baker, of H. M. S. "Tamar," late H. M. S. "Cadmus." The game was 150 up level and the enthusiasm of the onlookers bore testimony to the excitement of the contest. Throughout the game P. O. Baker's confidence and skill were predominant. At times however, the challenger proved that he was a player not to be despised and hugged his opponent to a dramatic finish, leaving Petty Officer Baker the winner by the narrow margin of one. Stoker Petty Officer Gillard was most solid in pocketing, but the display of nursery cannons of Petty Officer Baker was a source of delight to the billiard enthusiasts present.

NARROW ESCAPE.

WALLS CRASH DOWN.

A couple of firemen had very narrow escapes yesterday. They were supervising the removal of debris in the building in Des Voeux Road Central which was completely gutted by fire on Tuesday when they noticed that the walls looked very unsafe. They had no sooner left the building than the walls crashed down, bringing with them portions of the walls of the adjoining houses.

After the accident, the P.W.D. were busy shoring up the front and back walls of the building in order to prevent their collapse also.

"POOR BUT HONEST."

VAGABOND'S "HARD" FATE.

A Chinese who was found by the police loitering about Des Voeux Road West about 3 a.m. indignantly protested to Magistrate Hutchison that he was not a rogue and a vagabond. He earned his living as a coolie, and slept in the streets. He was on his way to a latrine when he was arrested. "I was not always so wretched," he said in conclusion, "I was once a dealer in firewood. Fate was against me, and I lost several hundreds of dollars by fire. That caused my downfall."

The Magistrate passed sentence of two weeks' hard labour.

The Rev. Dr. John Roach Straton, pastor of Calvary Baptist Church, warned New York recently that theatrical producers are planning to bring to the city a Paris production in which nude women appear. All sensible men are against extravagance, but is not this carrying economy too far?

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BOMBAY & COLOMBO—Regular fortnightly service via Spore.

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service.

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SYDNEY & MELBOURNE—Monthly service taking cargo to

New Zealand and Pacific Island.

KUNAJI MARU—Friday, 25th September.

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HONGKONG MARU—Thursday, 9th September.

JAPAN PORTS—Meji, Kobe, Yokohama, Yokohama.

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"PLASS"	5,000	14th Aug.	MARSHALLS LONDON & A'warp.
"KHIVA"	5,000	15th Aug.	MARSHALLS LONDON & A'warp.

BRITISH INDIA-APCAR SAILINGS (South)

S. S.	Tons	From Hongkong (about)	Destination
"TORILLA"	5,200	3 at July at 1 p.m.	Straits, Rangoon and Calcutta.

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S. S.	Tons	From Hongkong (about)	Destination
"BARTON"	4,000	15th Aug.	Saidakan, Thursday Island, Cairns, Townsville, Brisbane, Sydney and Melbourne.
"KANOWA"	7,000	22nd Sept.	

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S. S.	Tons	From Hongkong (about)	Destination
"DUNES"	5,400	1st Aug. at 4 p.m.	Shanghai only.
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BOMBAY & COLOMBO via Singapore.

TENSHIN MARU ... Friday, 20th August.

CALCUTTA & RANGOON via Singapore & Penang.

PENANG MARU ... Monday, 9th August.

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Godowns of the Hongkong and Kow-
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Ltd., at Kowloon, whence and/or from
the wharves delivery may be obtained.
Optional Cargo will be forwarded
unless notice to the contrary be given
before 28th inst.

No claims will be admitted after the
Goods have left the Godowns, and all
Goods remaining undelivered after
the 4th prox. will be subject to rent.

All claims against the steamer must
be presented to the Underwriter on
or before the 14th prox. or they will
not be recognized.

All broken, chafed, and damaged
Goods are to be left in the Godowns,
where they will be examined on the
4th prox. at 10 a.m.

No Fire Insurance has been effected.
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Hongkong, July 27, 1930.

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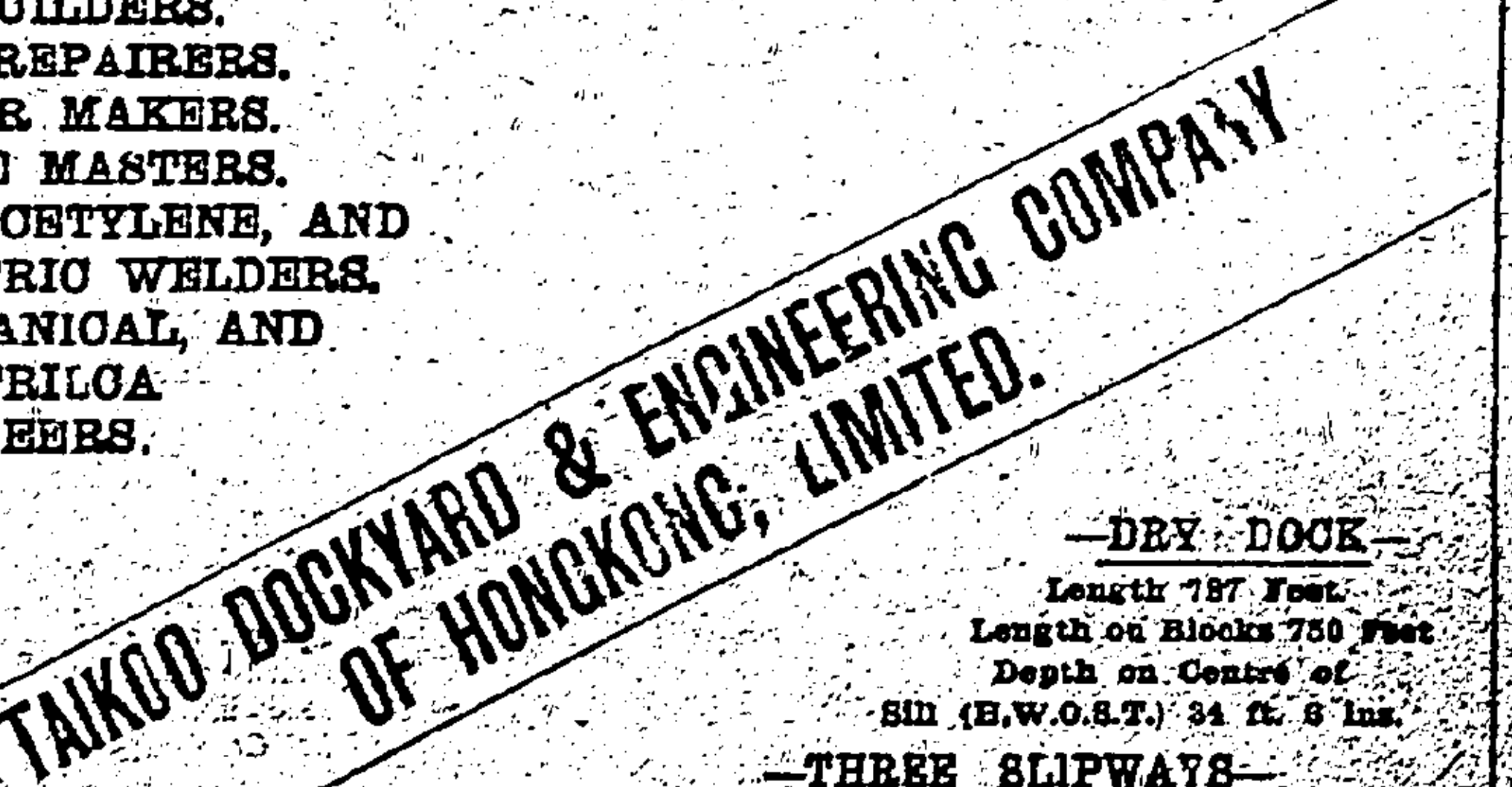
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